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CURRENT LITERATURE.

BOOK REVIEWS.

Index to Saccardo's Sylloge.

A COMPLETE index to Saccardo's great work on fungi has been compiled by Dr. Sydow.¹ The first half of the volume was issued in advance, and was noticed in this journal for last May. The index is divided into five parts: the first part includes species growing on living or dead parts of plants (858 pages); second those on living or dead parts of animals and man (14 pages); third those found on artificial substrata, such as paper, bread, etc. (30 pages); fourth those on earth, stones, etc. (137 pages); and fifth those that are fossil (13 pages). The bacteria are excluded from the index. The alphabetical arrangement is by genera, with species under each genus. The kind of substratum (hosts being mentioned by name), and the geographical distribution are also given in the same line.

The index is almost invaluable to one who uses the work much, and is a fitting complement to the eleven volumes of specific descriptions. The typography is admirably suited to ready reference.—J. C. A.

The bacteria.²

THE author of this valuable addition to bacteriological literature is well known to English readers through the translation of his *Introduction to Practical Bacteriology*, as well as through his original contributions to our knowledge of bacterial structure and function. The present work is an exceedingly useful and usable compilation. It deals with such questions as the relationship of bacteria to other groups of organisms, and the orderly arrangement possible within the group itself; with the morphology and chemistry of the cell membrane, the structure, chemistry and reaction to stain of the cell contents, the problematic cell nucleus and *Centralkörper*; and

¹ SACCARDO, P. A.—Sylloge fungorum omnium hucusque cognitorum. Vol. XII; Index universalis et locupletissimus generum, specierum, subspecierum, varietatum hospitumque in toto opere (vol. I–XI) expositum. Auctore P. Sydow. Roy. 8vo. pp. 1053. Berolini: Fratres Borntraeger. 1897.

² MIGULA, DR. W.—System der Bakterien. Handbuch der Morphologie, Entwicklungsgeschichte und Systematik der Bakterien. Erster Band. Allgemeiner Teil. Mit 6 Tafeln. Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1897.